**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO ALLOW FOR PROPERLY CREDENTIALED INDIVIDUALS TO CONDUCT SOIL EVALUATIONS AND PREPARE ONSITE WASTEWATER SYSTEMS LAYOUTS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR A SUNSET OF THE PROVISIONS IN THIS JOINT RESOLUTION NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2023.

Whereas, the provisions contained in this joint resolution are necessary to provide relief from backlogs of soil evaluations and the preparation of onsite wastewater systems layouts; and

Whereas, the provisions contained in this joint resolution are intended to provide a bridge between the current backlogs and such time as the Department of Health and Environmental Control can promulgate regulations to impose a long-term solution to this problem. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. (A) To conduct soil evaluations and prepare onsite wastewater systems layouts, the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) shall contract with:

(1) Registered Professional Engineers licensed in this State,

(2) Professional Soil Classifiers, and

(3) people practicing within the scope of their licensed trade or profession who are not required to obtain licensure as a Professional Soil Classifier under the exemption found in S.C. Code 40-65-40(7).

(B) DHEC shall publish on its website a list of the private individuals with whom it contracts pursuant to this section.

(C) The cost of the services that DHEC contracts for pursuant to this SECTION may not exceed three times the department’s permit fee.

SECTION 2. A member of the public may hire someone from the list required pursuant to SECTION 1 of this act to conduct soil evaluations or prepare onsite wastewater systems layouts, or both. The fee charged to the member of the public for the services allowed by this joint resolution may not exceed three times the department’s permit fee.

SECTION 3. This act is repealed on the earlier of July 1, 2023 or the effective date of Document No. 5103, which contains proposed regulations relating to the subject matter of this joint resolution.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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